

INDIANA ARTS COMMISSION
ADVOCACY AND AWARENESS COMMITTEE

May 28, 2009 10:00 a.m.

Conference Call

Jeanne Mirro, Chair

Minutes

Members present via teleconference: Jeanne Mirro, JoEllen Florio Rossebo, Pam Hicks, John DePrez, Irene Smith-King, A. John Rose, Miah Michaelson

Members absent: Gilberto Cárdenas, Sally Gaskill, John Cain, Lynn Jakubowski

IAC staff present: Lewis Ricci, Michelle Anderson, Rex Van Zant, Dennis Hardin, Lydia Zacharias

1. **Welcome and Introductions.** Ms. Mirro called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. and asked Mr. Van Zant to read the roll.

2. **Consent Agenda.** Mr. Rose moved to adopt the consent agenda. Mr. DePrez seconded. Motion passed.

3. **IAC Advocacy Update.** Mr. Ricci gave a brief update on the status of the state budget. The legislature adjourned on April 29 without passing a budget for FY2010. A special session will be called in mid-June, but a new state budget will not be approved before the Arts Commission holds its next quarterly meeting on June 12. It will likely be necessary for the executive committee to approve the FY2010 IAC budget when it is in a final form at a later date. Ms. Mirro asked about the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds which the IAC will be administering; Mr. Ricci reported that the Program Evaluation Committee will be reviewing about 80 applications during their meetings on June 1 and 2. He expects about 16 applications to be approved for funding. Ms. Mirro then recounted her experiences attending National Arts Advocacy Day in Washington D. C. She found it very informative and educational, and encouraged everyone to attend if possible. She thanked members of the Indiana Coalition for the Arts (INCA) for their continued hard work.

4. **State Arts Advocates Update.** Mr. DePrez iterated the importance of continuing contacts with state legislators, and that another email campaign may be called for depending on the next draft of the state budget to come forward. He also reported on declining membership of the INCA, both from individuals and from struggling arts organizations. He and Mr. Ricci both encouraged the committee to keep its eyes on the bigger picture, emphasizing positive strides that have been made in advocacy and funding. Both encouraged committee members and IAC commissioners to join INCA if they have not already done so.

5. **Governor's Arts Awards.** Mr. Van Zant reported that India Cruse-Griffin has been selected as the artist to create the Governor's Arts Award for 2009. She is a multi-media artist from

Richmond. Mr. Ricci reported that the Governor has confirmed his appearance at the event on September 25, and emphasized the importance of his appearance for the positive image of IAC. Mr. Van Zant reported that there have been 63 nominations for the awards, and that six recipients have been selected, along with one alternate. Winners have not been announced. Mr. Ricci reported that IAC has entered into a contract with Cornerstone Arts in Muncie who will be producing the event.

6. **New Business.** Mr. Van Zant introduced Lydia Zacharias, a new IAC intern who will be assisting with the Governor's Arts Awards. Mr. Van Zant also presented a handout (attached) providing other communications updates. He also reported that the IAC offices will be relocating on June 20 to 100 N. Senate Avenue, room N505, which is in the Government Center North building. The next meeting of the Advocacy and Awareness Committee will be August 27 at 10:00 a.m.

7. **Old Business.** Ms. Mirro mentioned the recent appointment of Rocco Landesman as the new head of the National Endowment for the Arts.

8. **Adjourn.** Mr. Rose moved to adjourn. Ms. Hicks seconded. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 11:05 a.m.